



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 1116**

January Session, 2009

\* SB01116JUD\_\_040209\_\_ \*

**AN ACT REQUIRING CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECKS FOR  
YOUTH CAMP EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) Except as provided in  
2 subsection (b) of this section, each youth camp licensed pursuant to  
3 chapter 368r of the general statutes shall require an individual to  
4 submit to state and national criminal history records checks prior to  
5 the individual: (1) Beginning employment at the camp, (2)  
6 volunteering at the camp, or (3) assuming responsibility for  
7 transporting any child attending the camp in a motor vehicle. The  
8 criminal history records checks required under this subsection shall be  
9 conducted in accordance with section 29-17a of the general statutes.

10 (b) The criminal history records checks under subsection (a) of this  
11 section shall not be required for any individual who has successfully  
12 completed a background check for immigration purposes in  
13 accordance with federal law within the six-month period prior to the  
14 date such individual (1) begins employment at the camp, (2) begins  
15 volunteering at the camp, or (3) assumes responsibility for  
16 transporting any child attending the camp in a motor vehicle.

17 (c) The cost of the state and national criminal history records checks  
18 required under subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the youth  
19 camp.

20       Sec. 2. Section 19a-422 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
21 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

22       To be eligible for the issuance or renewal of a youth camp license  
23 pursuant to this chapter, the camp shall satisfy the following  
24 requirements: (1) The location of the camp shall be such as to provide  
25 adequate surface drainage and afford facilities for obtaining a good  
26 water supply; (2) each dwelling unit, building and structure shall be  
27 maintained in good condition, suitable for the use to which it is put,  
28 and shall present no health or fire hazard as so certified by the  
29 department and the State Fire Marshal or local fire marshal, as  
30 indicated by a current fire marshal certificate dated within the past  
31 year and available on site when the youth camp is in operation; (3)  
32 there shall be an adequate and competent staff, which includes the  
33 camp director or assistant director, one of whom shall be on site at all  
34 times the camp is in operation, activities specialists, counselors and  
35 maintenance personnel, of good character and reputation; (4) prior to  
36 assuming responsibility for campers, staff shall be trained, at a  
37 minimum, on the camp's policies and procedures pertaining to  
38 behavioral management and supervision, emergency health and safety  
39 procedures and recognizing, preventing and reporting child abuse and  
40 neglect, and criminal history records checks shall be conducted for  
41 such staff in accordance with section 1 of this act; (5) all hazardous  
42 activities, including, but not limited to, archery, aquatics, horseback  
43 riding and firearms instruction, shall be supervised by a qualified  
44 activities specialist who has adequate experience and training in such  
45 specialist's area of specialty; (6) the staff of a resident and nonresident  
46 camp shall at all times include an adult trained in the administration of  
47 first aid as required by the commissioner; and (7) records of personal  
48 data for each camper shall be kept in any reasonable form the camp  
49 director may choose, and shall include (A) the camper's name, age and  
50 address, (B) the name, address and telephone number of the parents or  
51 guardian, (C) the dates of admission and discharge, and (D) such other  
52 information as the commissioner shall require. Any youth camp  
53 licensed under this chapter shall operate only as the type of camp

54 authorized by such license. Such camps shall not advertise any service  
55 they are not equipped or licensed to offer. The license shall be posted  
56 in a conspicuous place at camp headquarters and failure to so post the  
57 license shall result in the presumption that the camp is being operated  
58 in violation of this chapter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	19a-422

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*